

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

1. (CANCELLED)

2. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An electronic commercial transaction method, comprising:

creating virtual personal information;

communicating to a manager, via a network, the virtual personal information of a virtual world having a representation format similar to that of real personal information of a real world;

converting the virtual personal information into the real personal information based on registered information, in a managing apparatus provided in the network;

notifying the real personal information to an entity;

making a commercial transaction in the virtual world on the network, based on the virtual personal information of the virtual world received via the network;

seeking confirmation on an approval of the commercial transaction from an individual in the real world who made the commercial transaction, based on the virtual personal information; and

instructing delivery and/or settlement of an item from the managing apparatus depending on the commercial transaction and the confirmation, based on the real personal information,

wherein said virtual personal information having a representation format similar to that of real personal information of a real world, and includes a virtual address in a virtual city within the virtual world.

3. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The electronic commercial transaction method as claimed in claim 2, further comprising:

converting the virtual personal information into the real personal information in a managing apparatus provided in the network.

4-5. (CANCELLED)

6. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The electronic commercial transaction method as claimed in claim 2, further comprising:

approving log-in to the virtual world; and
approving the commercial transaction in the virtual world.

7. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The electronic commercial transaction method as claimed in claim 6, wherein said approving the log-in and said approving the commercial transaction, respectively, approve based solely on the virtual personal information.

8. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The electronic commercial transaction method as claimed in claim 2, wherein said virtual personal information further includes at least one of a virtual name used in the virtual world, a virtual telephone number at the virtual address in the virtual city, a virtual bank account number of a virtual bank within the virtual city, and a virtual credit card number of a virtual credit card usable in the virtual world.

9. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A managing apparatus, comprising:

managing means for managing registered information which is used when converting virtual personal information into real personal information of a virtual world of a real world, said virtual personal information having a representation format similar to that of the real personal information and including a virtual address in a virtual city within the virtual world;

converting means for converting the virtual personal information received from the virtual city within the virtual world via a network into corresponding real personal information of the real world, based on the registered information; and

notifying means for notifying the real personal information to an entity;

transaction means for making a commercial transaction in the virtual world on the network, based on the virtual personal information of the virtual world received via the network;

means for seeking confirmation on an approval of the commercial transaction from an individual in the real world who made the commercial transaction in the virtual world in which the virtual personal information is used, based on the virtual personal information; and

means for instructing delivery and/or settlement of an item depending on the commercial transaction which is made in the virtual world in which the virtual personal information is used, based on the real personal information and the confirmation.

10-11. (CANCELLED).

12. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A system for managing a virtual city space within a virtual world in which commercial transactions occur, comprising:

a manager mapping virtual personal information of a virtual world to real personal information;

a plurality of virtual shops accessible via a network;

a commercial transaction being made between a first virtual individual and an arbitrary one of the virtual shops, based on virtual personal information of the first virtual individual;

an approval of the transaction is sent by an individual in the real world who made the commercial transaction, based on the virtual personal information; and

a delivery and/or settlement of an item from the arbitrary one of the virtual shops is made depending on the commercial transaction and the approval, based on the real personal information,

wherein said virtual personal information has a representation format similar to that of real personal information of a real world, and includes a virtual address in the virtual city space within the virtual world.

13. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The system as claimed in claim 12, further comprising:

a virtual home of a second virtual individual having a virtual address in the virtual city space, and

a communication being made between the first virtual individual and the second virtual individual, based on the virtual personal information of the first virtual individual.

14. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The system as claimed in claim 13, further comprising:

a virtual station through which the first virtual individual can move to another virtual city space.

15. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The system as claimed in claim 12, further comprising:

a virtual station through which the first virtual individual can move to another virtual city space.

16. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method, comprising:

creating virtual information of a virtual user;

communicating, via a network, the virtual information of the virtual user to at least one of a plurality of virtual entities within a virtual world, both the virtual user and the plurality of virtual entities representing a real person and real entities;

managing registered information of the virtual user and real user to convert virtual information into real information of a person; and

notifying the real personal information to an entity;

managing an anonymous commercial transaction between virtual entities in the virtual world on the network by using the virtual information;

seeking confirmation of the transaction from the real user; and

delivering an item involved in the commercial transaction to the real user if the real user confirms the transaction.